The Week's Doings at the National Capital.

GEN. SHERIDAN AT THE ZOO. The public may not be aware of the fact that Gen. Phil Sheridan is en enthusiastic student of natural history. He is especially acquainted with the habits and characteristics of the animals of North America, the most of which he has hunted in their native haunts. He visited Philadelphia to attend the Centennial Celebration, and went a day in advance in order to spend his time at the Zoological Garden. He passed the afternoon examing the animals and conversing with the keepersabout their habits. After a tour of the garden he assured the head keeper that he would be back again before returning to the Capital for another visit to his charges. The General experienced two pleasgarden he met an old schoolmate, Mr. Charles Jefferson, and the two gentlemen fell at once to talking over old times and recounting incidents of their boyhood days. When he came to the cicphant house he found the great animals in charge of grizzled old Ned Pendergast, a veteran who was with Sheridan at Winchester on that most dramatic day in the General's life, when he rode 20 miles and saved the Union army from disaster on that historic field, celebrated in Thomas Buchanan Reed's famous poem. The General shook hands with the old veteran cordially, and in honor of their meeting Pendergast trotted out the great beasts in his charge and gave them a bath. It was an interesting exhibition of the habits of the mammoth creatures, which Gen, Sheridan eu-

THE NEW REAR-ADMIRAL.

Bancroft Gherardi, who has just been promoted to Rear-Admiral, United States Navy, was born in Louisiana, Nov. 10, 1832. He was 14 years of age when he entered the United States Navy from Massachusetts. The war with Mexico was then in progress. After six years at sea the young sailor entered the naval neademy. The same year he was made a Passed Midshipman. He was made a Master in 1855, and was commissioned Lieutenant the same year. When the civil war began Lieutenant Gherardi was in service on the Lancaster, of the Pacific squadron. Upon his return to the Atlantic coast, the same year, he was made a Lieutenaut Commander. He took part in the bombardment of Fort Macon in 1862. He took part in the battle of Mobile Bay, Aug. 5, 1864, under Admiral Farragut. His conduct on this occasion was that of an eminently brave and capable officer, and was highly commended. He commanded the Pequot at a later period of the war. Gherardi attained the rank of Commander in 1866. He received his commission as Captain in 1874, and reached the dignity of Commodore 10 years after, in 1884. Since the war he has performed duties commensurate with his various grades; the Jamestown, Pensacola, and Lancaster being among the vessels he has communded. He has had charge of the Naval Asylum at Philadelphia, and of the Navy Yard, Brooklyn. He is a fine-looking, dignified

THE RIGHTS OF EX-SOLDIERS IN OFFICE. It is reported that Postmaster-General Vilas brought by the Veterans' Rights Association. It is said that he has violated the law regarding the relention of persons honorably discharged from the military or naval service, and and sailors, by discharging Engineer Henderclaims that no charges were made against Hensioners do not think the veterans have a good "the Postmaster-General has been extremely guarded in making discharges of ex-soldiers," and, therefore, it is not thought that Mr. Henderson was dismissed without ample cause. The law distinctly states that the persons specified shall be retained, "all things being equal." The Commissioners think that it will be found that all things were not equal in Mr. Herderson's case. The Commissioners do not know what can be done with the Postmaster-General, though there was no particular reason for discharging Henderson other than a necessity to reduce the force. Any appointing officer might be enjoined from removing an ex-soldier, but of restoring him.

ABOUT THE CROPS.

The statistical report of the Department of Agriculture for September presents a heavy reduction in condition of cotton, corn and potatoes, with little change in the status of wheat and other small grains. The cotton crop has been reduced over 10 points, from 93.3 to 82.8, the effect of excessive rains on the Atlantic coast and drought in the Gulf States. Serious shedding of bolls has resulted from both causes. The boll worm and caterpillars have a wide distribution, doing some damage already and threatening still heavier loss.

There is a further loss in condition of corn from 80.5 to 72.3 per cent., four points lower than last year's crop in September. The memorable crop failure of 1881 was indicated by 60 in September and 66 in October, some improvement having resulted from more favorable conditions. The depreciation is nearly all in the West, The States of the Atlantic coast and those of the Guif report larger crops than those of last year already beyond the reach of disaster. In the seven corn-surplus States the average of last month was 74, now 64. The figures are: Ohio, 68; Indiana, 61; Illinois, 57; Iowa, 78; Missouri, 67; Kansas, 42; Nebraska, 72. The average of New York and Pennsylvania is 95, of Georgia 94, of Texas 88, of Tennessee 80 and of

The average condition of Winter and Spring wheat when harvested is 82; last year 87.8; in 1885, 72. In the Spring wheat region Dakota returns 80, a small gain; Minnesota and Wisconsin 72, Iowa 71 and Nebraska 76, a slight reduction from last month. The increase of nereage will make the difference still less between the present crop and that of 1885.

NOW THEY CAN MARRY. Considerable discussion is going on in the Departments over two interesting rumors. One is that a Civil Service Examiner is authority for the statement that the wives of clerks are eligible for examination before the Commission certification and appointment, provided no member of her immediate family, except the husband, is in office. There is believed to be some ruling on this point in the forthcoming revised rules and regulations of the Commis-

The other rumor is to the effect that a frank young Treasury clerk went to Secretary Fairshild a few days ago and said :

resign in order to marry."

"Bless you, my child," said the Secretary, Administration to force you to resign when you | of Detroit.

If this he true several scores of gentle hearts will flutter, and several scores of male clerks will have no excuse for longer delay.

OLD SOLDIERS SICK IN WASHINGTON. From the annual report of Dr. C. B. Purvis, Surgeon-in-Chief of the Freedman's Hospital, it appears that 2,254 patients were admitted and cared for during the year, an increase of 123 over last year. Of the whole number treated 799 were colored males, 816 colored females, 507 white males, and 132 white females. About 195 ex-soldiers have been admitted and treated during the year. These persons come from all parts of the country to look after claims, many become sick, and upon the recommendation of the Commissioner of Pensions were admitted to the hespital. The total number of deaths recorded during the year was 224.

THE DOCTORS' CONGRESS.

The world's congress of doctors was given the right of way in Washington all last week, the rying the skin and in curing torturing, disfiguring, itchsessions closing on Saturday. The very large ing, scaty and pimply diseases of the skin, scalp and number of papers read on medical subjects will | blood, with loss of hair. urday some hundreds of them were taken to Mount Vernon on the U. S. S. Dispatch, and in the evening 14 coaches full of them left for a trip to Niagura Falls.

A BIT OF HISTORY. In a history of the Grand Army of the Republic, published in the Post of this city last Sunday morning, Comrade Maj. William Howard Milis, who was an Aid-de-Camp on the

staff of the Commander-in-Chief in 1886, said: Through partisan activity in the first Grant Presidential campaign, Gen. Grant being a member of the Order, the Grand Army became, in a measure, divided, lost in strength, and recruiting was materially interfered with. The close of the campaign found it greatly decimated, and in some States there was scarcely a semblance of the Order left. In Illinois, its birthplace, the Order suffered so severely that it was years before it recovered its former standing, and in Missouri it perished. Phonixlike, however, it has risen from its ashes in Missouri, and the greatest of all its National Encampments will be that of St. Louis. Action will no doubt be taken in regard to the matter of pensions and the form of a pension bill adopted and recommended to the consideration of Congress, which will probably be passed by that honorable body and signed by

SONS OF VETERANS. There are two thriving Camps of Sons of been named in honor of Gen. Jno. A. Logan. Mrs. Logan has been made the first honorary member of the Camp, and will soon be offiant surprises at the Zoo. In the actuary of the | cially notified of the fact and asked to accept the honor. The Camp has doubled its membership within the last few months.

VETERANS IN THE CITY. C. W. Buvinger, M. D., formerly Surgeon of the 80th Ohio-Second Brigade, Third Division, Fifteenth Corps. Dr. Buvinger is now one of the leading physicians of Pittsburg, Pa. He was in Washington in attendance upon the International Congress of Physicians, and read a paper on the "Etiology of Camp Diarrhea,"

which was very highly praised. Comrade John H. Cook, 119th III., 33 West Twenty-third street, New York. Comrade Cook is an Aid on the Commander-in-Chief's Staff, and an active member of Lafayette Post, No. 140, New York,

Among the callers at THE NATIONAL TEIR-UNE office during the past week was Comrade Eli Roush, of Athens, O. Comrade Roush was a gallant soldier of Co. C. 4th W. Va., and belonged to the old Fifteenth Corps. He came east to attend the Reunion of the survivors of the 75th Ohio at Gettysburg, in whose ranks he has many friends, where it was expected that the regimental monument would be unvailed. It was found, however, when they arplaced at the foot of Cemetery Hill, where the 75th repulsed the charge of the Louisiana Tigers. Instead of that the foundation was put upon the crest of the hill, where the regiment was not in position.

"SHERMAN'S BUMMERS." Annual Meeting of the Society of the Army of the

The annual meeting of the Army of the Tennessee was held at Detroit, Mich., Sept. 14 and 15. The city was most beautifully decorated, the principal business streets, the public buildings, and many private houses being ornamented with flags, banners, streamers, bunting, trophies, and beautiful emblematic designs, in some cases of a noteworthy and original character. Gen. Wm. T. Sherman arrived on the morning of the 13th. He was accompanied by Gen, Henry W. Slocum. All the distinguished visitors, to the number of 30, dined in the evening with Gen. Orlando M. Poe, Commander of the Loyal Legion, and Chairman of the Local Executive Committee for the Reunion. After is shortly to be made the defendant in a suit | the banquet they visited the cyclorama of the Battle of Atlanta," where an informal recep-

tion was held by the managers. The evening meeting in Princess Rink at 8 o'clock was distinguished by an audience of not the widows and orphans of deceased soldiers only the leading men of Detroit and Michigan, but of the whole Nation. The party on the son, of the Postoffice building. The association platform was composed of the leading figures of society, Gov. Luce, Acting Mayor Pridgeon derson, and it is, therefore, a good time to and others. Gen. O. M. Poe, Chairman of the make a test case. The Civil Service Commis- | Local Executive Committee, called the meeting to order with an introductory address. Gen. case. They do not know the particulars in the Sherman called the society to order and incase at issue, but, as Commissioner Oberly says, | vited the Rev. Bishop Fallows, of Chicago, to open the meeting with prayer. After music by the Arion Quartet, Gen. Sherman called upon Gov. Luce, who delivered an address of welcome on behalf of the people of Michigan. He was followed by Acting Mayor Pridgeon, welcoming the society on behalf of the city of Detroit. Gen. Sherman, on behalf of the Army of the Tennessee, responded briefly. Col. Augustus Jacobson, of Chicago, delivered the oration of the evening. Another song by the Arion Quartet completed the set program. A Campfire closed the exercises and adjournment was had until 10 o'clock the next day.

The second day's session was called to order after the fact is accomplished there is no means at 10:15 by Gen. Sherman. Toledo, Sept. 15 and 16, 1888, was selected as place and time for holding the next Reunion. Col. Gilbert A. Pierce, with Gen. Smith D. Atkins as alternate. was chosen as the next orator. Cincinnati was selected as permanent headquarters of the

Gen. Green B. Raum presented the report of the committee which had prepared resolutions on the death of Gen. Logan. The resolutions declare him the embodiment of the American patriot and the foremost volunteer soldier. A suitable statue at the Capitol at Washington was recommended, and the Army of the Tennessee intends to co-operate with the Grand Army of the Republic in erecting it. The report was adopted.

John A. Logan, jr., was unanimously elected to fill his father's membership in the society. The report of the Treasurer, Gen. Force, showed the society out of debt, with \$11,000 invested in Government bonds. Senator Palmer contributed to the local Grand Army Posts the sum of \$10,000 in cash toward the erection of a building for the use of the Posts. When the organization ceases to exist, if ever, the hall, or an equal equivalent, shall be forever used for

The Committee on Nominations reported as follows: President, Gen. W. T. Sherman; V .-P's, Gen. Poe, Maj. Harding, Capt. Fegun, Capt. Heafford, Surg. Bond, Capt. Crane, Lieut.-Col. Jacobson, Col. Lynch, Lieut.-Col. Fisk, Gen. Landrum, Maj. Ware and Gen. Hubbard; Rec. Sec., Col. L. M. Dayton; Cor. Sec., Gen. Andy Hickenlooper; Treas., Maj.-Gen. M. F. Force. Resolutions of thanks and congratulations to the city and the Local Entertainment Committee were adopted with cheers, Col. Calkins read an interesting paper upon the "Conflict of Opinion Preceding the War," Gen. Sherman then put a motion to adjourn, and the business | tions, covered into the Treasury at the close of meetings of the 20th Reunion were ended.

A brilliant reception was tendered at night by General and Mrs. Alger to Mrs. Gen. Logan. Gen. Sherman and other distinguished guests. Persons in every rank and condition of life were heartily welcomed. Gen. Shermen's manner throughout the reception was off-hand and pleasant. Mrs. Logan's manner was quiet and self-nessessed.

At the banquet which followed the reception toasts were given and responded to as follows: dent James B. Angell, of the University of each year. In this statement it appears that "Mr. Scoretary, I'm engaged to a young gen- derson, of Iowa; "The American Soldier," the tleman in one of the other Departments, but we Rev. Charles O'Reilly, D. D., of Detroit; "The have been filed on account of death, alleged to can't marry and live on his salary, if I have to | Soldier Dead," Senator Thomas W. Palmer; Logan Chipman, of Detroit; "The Women of widows, minor children, and dependent rela-"get married if you want to and pool your sal- the War," Bishop Fellows, of Chicago; "The tives. There have been allowed of the invalid aries. There is no law or ruling under this Army Surgeon," Maj. Henry F. Lyster, M. D., claims 367,424; of the widows and dependent

> Religion As She Is Known. Teacher-Can any one help Johnny to finish the Fourth Commandment? Small Boy-Yeth'm. And the Lord blethed



CUTICURA Remedies. NOTHING IS KNOWN TO SCIENCE AT ALL comparable to the CUTICURA REMEDIES in their marvellous properties of cleansing, purifying and beauti-

be published in full for the benefit of the pro- CUTICURA, the great Skin Cure, and CUTICURA SOAP. fession, making several large volumes. About an exquisite Skin Beautifier, prepared from it, exter 2,700 doctors in all attended the Congress. Sat- nally, and Curreura Resolvent, the new Blood Purifier internally, are a positive cure for every form of skin and blood disease, from pimples to scrofula. Curreura REMEDIES are absolutely pure and the only infallible skin beautifiers and blood purifiers.

Sold everywhere. Price, CUTICURA, 50c.; RESOLVENT, \$1; Soar, 25c. Prepared by the Potten Date and CHEMICAL Co., Boston, Mass.

Ar Send for "How to Cure Skin Diseases." HANDS Soft as dove's down, and as white, by using

GEN. BLACK'S REPORT.

(Continued from 2d page.) the natural right and claim on the son for sup-

NEW AGENCIES.

For years the center of the pension population of the United States has been steadily moving toward the West and the South, so that the four largest western agencies, as shown by their annual reports for the year 1887, are payng an average of 34,628 pensioners. The addition of the Mexican war pensioners, under the act of Jan. 29, 1887, still further increased this ratio, and throws the center of the pension population still farther to the West and South. have therefore in my estimates, submitted for transmission through the Treasury Department, asked for the establishment of two additional agencies. Power is lodged in the President to establish agencies for the payment of nsions wherever in his judgment they should be established, looking to the public interests Veterans in Washington, and one of them has and those of the pensioners; but the provision is nugatory unless appropriation be made for the payment of expenses. I have asked for the very small additional amount for clerk-hire, limiting the extra call for this service to \$10,000 per year at both agencies.

I believe that the expeditious discharge of the duties of these Pension Agents requires the establishment of additional agencies. True economy in this matter consists in thoroughly equipping the Governmental service. The agencies now existing are being worked to their full capacity. More work is being done by them than since the foundation of the Government-more than has ever been accomplished by an equal number. A delay of a few days is always the occasion for loud and discontented comments on the part of the pensoners who are to be paid, and I feel justified in arging the additional expenses for and on account of the agencies of the sums above specified and amounting to \$18,000.

MEXICAN SERVICE PENSION ACT OF JAN. 29,

I am gratified to report that the work upon the Mexican service pensions under the act of Jan. 29, 1887, in the Old War and Navy Division, with the assistance rendered by the Record Division and by the volunteered service out of office hours of numbers of employes, was so adrived that the monument had been placed in | vanced that by the close of the fiscal year 8,000 the wrong position, and the unvailing did not of those pensions had been granted. I asked take place. The monument should have been | for an additional appropriation and for leave to employ an additional number of clerks for this service. Congress decided not to grant the increase, so I was compelled to delay the current work, to indefinitely postpone and thus vir- service. tually defeat the operations of the Mexican pension act, or to avail myself of the extra services of the employes in the Bureau. I acknowledge | the United States, and in each foreign country, with satisfaction that very many among them rendered these services cheerfully, pleasantly and efficiently. I desire also to mention in this connection the services of the Certificate | the quarter ending June 3, 1887. Division, which worked with unceasing zeal, thereby making the promises of the law good to these aged veterans.

I renew my request for additional clerical force during the remainder of this fiscal year, that I may be enabled, without making extra | ritory and in foreign countries for the June, demands upon the clerks now in the service, 1887, quarter. to complete and satisfy the Mexican pension claims. They are those of aged persons who have waited a period of nearly 40 years for the display of their country's generosity, and aid to reach them must be speedily extended.

SUMMARY OF TABLES. Table No. 1, annexed to this report, is as follows:

There were at the close of the year 406,007 pensioners, classified as follows: 294,445 army invalids; 85,010 army widows, minor children and dependent relatives; 3,281 navy invalids; 1,973 navy widows, minor children and dependent relatives; 1,069 survivors of the war of 1812, and 11,831 widows of those who served in that war; 7,503 survivors of the war with Mexico, and 895 widows of those who served in said war, which latter class have been added to the rolls pursuant to the act of Congress approved Jan. 29, 1887.

There were added to the rolls during the year the names of 55,194 new pensioners, and the names of 2,707 whose pensions had been previously dropped were restored to the rolls, making an aggregate of 57,901 pensioners added during the year.

During the same period the names of 17,677 pensioners were dropped from the rolls for various causes, leaving a net increase to the rolls of 49,224 names.

The average annual value of each pension at the close of the year is shown to be \$130.10, a gain of average annual value over last year of \$7.87. The aggregate annual value of all pensions is \$52,824,641.22, an increase of like value for the year of \$8,116,633.78.

The amount paid for pensions during the year was \$73,467,581.87, an increase in amount over the previous year of \$9,669,750.26, the difference between the amount paid and the annual values being due to first payments, including "accrued" and "arrears."

The amount paid to 44,019 new pensioners during the year upon first payment was \$25,-166,990.06, and there remained in the hands of the several Pension Agents 14,683 of this class unpaid at the close of business on the 30th day of June, on which there was due \$3,924,783.11. Table No. 2 shows as follows:

There were 17,677 pensioners whose names were dropped from the rolls. They have been so classified as to show the number of widows with, and those without, minor children; the number of minor children who were pensioned in their own right, and the number of dependent mothers and fathers. It also shows the whole number of pensioners on the roll, with a like subdivision of the widows' class. Table No. 3 exhibits the amount of appropriations and balances available for the payment

of pensions for 1886-'87. Table No. 4 exhibits the amount paid out on account of pensions by each agent under each item of appropriation, as shown by their accounts-current. This table also shows a disbursement of \$19,941,95 for payment of arrears of pensions in cases where the original pension was granted prior to Jan. 25, 1879, and the date of commencement of pension was subsequent to discharge or death. The act of Jan. 25, 1879. provided for arrears of this class, and the disbursements have been kept separate from those of regular pensions. Of the funds to pay this class there remain a balance of \$433,741.58, which is not, as in the case of other appropria-

the year. Table No. 5 shows the number of pensioners on the rolls at each agency, by the several classes, and compares the aggregate number with that of the previous year, showing in each class the net increase or net decrease. It also shows the net increase to the rolls during the

year, which, as before stated, was 40,224. Table No. 6 shows the number of original pension claims of each class filed year by year since 1861, the number allowed, and the num-"The President of the United States," Presi- ber of pensioners on the rolls at the close of Michigan; "Our Commander," Col. D. B. Hen- 628,272 claims have been filed during that period on account of disability, and 364,586 claim be due to causes originating in the service, "The Surviving Soldier," the Hon. John J. claims for this latter class having been filed by relatives' claims 240,662; a total of 608,086.

Since 1871, 79,164 claims for pension on account of service during the war of 1812, provided for by the acts of 1871 and 1878, have been filed. Of this number 34,714 have been filed by the surviving soldiers and sallers, and 44,450 have been filed by the widows of those who served in that war. Only 17 original survivors' claims have been filed under this law during the past fiscal year, and only 312 on ac-

count of widows for the same period. It thus appears that in the aggregate 1,091, 200 pension claims have been filed since 1861. and in the same period, 676,948 claims of all classes have been allowed. The number of pensioners upon the rolls at the close of each year is stated. The amount paid for pensions since 1861 has been \$883,440,298.36.

Table No. 7 shows the different monthly rates of pension to Army and Navy invalids, together with the number of pensioners of these classes and of each of them. It will be seen that there are 151 different rates of pension paid. Table No. 8 gives the location and geographi-

cal limits of each pension agency, the name of each agent, and the balance of funds remaining to his official credit at the close of the year. Table No. 9 shows the number of Army invalid claims allowed each year since 1861 classified and arranged so that in each year's allowange it is shown in what years the claims were filed. The whole number of invalid claims filed each year since 1861 is given, and it is shown what percentage of the number of claims filed each year has been allowed.

Table No. 10 exhibits the amounts paid for pension each year since 1871 for pensions to the survivors of the war of 1812 and to the widows of those who served in that war.

Table No. 11 shows the number of each class of claims on the files of this Bureau at the commencement of the year; the number filed during the year, and the number admitted; the number rejected during the same period, and the number of each class pending and on the rejected files at the close of the year. There is also shown in this table the number of bounty-land claims received, allowed, rejected

and remaining on file. Table No. 12 is a comparative statement of pension claims of all classes settled by allowance and rejection during the years 1881, 1882,

1883, 1884, 1885, 1886 and 1887. Table No. 13 shows the number of each class of Army pension claims filed since 1861 on account of disability or death from causes originating in the service since March 4, 1861. It also shows the total number admitted under each class named, so arranged as to show these results by military service in each State and

Table No. 14 exhibits the issue of certificates from this Bureau during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1886, and closing June 30, 1887, and shows a grand total of 112,340 certificates. This table also shows that during the year 55,additional salaries of two Pension Agents and a | 194 original certificates were issued, a greater number than ever before issued in any year by this Bureau. Table No. 15 shows in brief the operations of

the Special-Examination Division of this Bureau during the year. It sets forth the number of claims acted upon by said division, the amount of savings accredited to this service, and the expenditure on account thereof, ex-

Table No. 16 shows the number of appeals to the Secretary of the Interior from the decisions of this Bureau during the year-a total of 2,599. Table No. 17 shows the number of names and addresses furnished to different divisions of this Bureau and to claimants, in the consideration of pending claims during the year-a total

Table No. 18 exhibits the work done by the Mail Division of this Bureau during the year. It shows the amount of money received in the mail, the amount of postage stamps received, as well as the enormous correspondence of this Bureau. \$1,263.59 were received in money; 9,808 postage stamps were received; 450,806 letters of inquiry were received, and 1,607,675 letters were sent out during the year. This table also shows that 2,234,331 pieces of mail matter were received, examined and distributed to the proper divisions of this Bureau during the year. Table No. 19 exhibits the number of men in service from each State and Territory in the war of 1861-'65, and the number of men when reduced to the basis of three years' term of

Table No. 20 shows the number of pensioners in each County of each State and Territory of on the pension rolls June 30, 1887, together with the amount paid as current pension in each of said Counties and foreign countries for

The summary of this table shows the number of pensioners in each State and Territory of the United States and in foreign countries on the pension-rolls June 30, 1887, and the amount paid as current pension in each State and Ter-

THE NEW PENSION BUILDING.

The new Pension building is nearing completion. I have information from the architect in charge that he cannot add elevators, having no appropriation for that purpose. There are spaces left in the building for two, and I am informed that the moderate cost of each of them will be \$7,000. In the estimates submitted through the Treasury to Congress I have asked for the sum of \$14,000 for the two ele-

I desire to say here, in addition to the mere formal statement, that probably more people enter the Bureau of Pensions who are unfit to ascend and descend stairs than in any other Government building anywhere. Thousands of people come from great distances to see about the adjudication of their claims who are too weak or too lame to mount even the easy steps to the new Pension building without assistance and without discomfort.

A large number of those employed in the office, and who by the assignment of the divisions to quarters are compelled to occupy the third and fourth stories, are not fit physically for the exertion involved in ascending and descending the stairs.

The report of the Superintendent of the building shows that at the time the Census Office was dismantled the Bureau of Pensions fell heir to its long used and much abused furniture. It has been patched, repaired, revamped, and revarnished; it is old and rickety, and should be condemned and replaced with new; and an appropriation has been asked for to enable the Commissioner to make the proper replacement. And so with regard to other suggestions made by the Superintendent, which have received the Commissioner's consideration and approval -notably the item for repairs and improvement, the necessity for which always exists in every building, even when new; for it will not be found, as a rule, completely adapted to its purposes until tried and added to in those minute and inexpensive details which go to fit

it for actual occupancy. The great passageways are left without wainscoting, and the walls will constantly become defaced by the passing thousands. No ordinary care can prevent this. A wainscoting of tile or marble should be added at an early date. Estimates covering these expenses are submitted elsewhere.

The experience of the past Summer has demonstrated that the upper rooms of the new Pension building are substantially uninhabitable and cannot be used except as file-rooms, owing to the great heat thereof. The record of the thermometer will demonstrate this, and all arrangements for the future use of the building should take into view the fact that the upper story can substantially never be used except as above stated. The building was not designed originally for such use, and no modification that has been or will be made can completely remedy the trouble.

CURRENT WORK.

In addition to the current work, the great volume of which is indicated by the tables heretofore cited, the old files of the Bureau of Pensions have been carefully overhauled, with a view to admitting such claims as by inadvertence might have been passed when they were really ready for admission. This overhauling has resulted in adding a considerable number of claimants to the pension list, and I do not now know of cases completed which are not DETROIT. disposed of. The Bureau of Pensions is now | ST. THOMAS, engaged upon current business. This condition of affairs has been brought about in part by the earnest exertion of the Adjutant-General of the Army of the United States and Dr. Ainsworth, who has had charge in the War Department of the certification of surgical records to the Bureau of Pensions. Most gratifying results have followed their prompt and vigorous interposition, and as a rule at this time reports called for from the Surgeon-General are received back into the Bureau of Pensions fol honored in the period of five days. The vast arrears which existed at the opening of the year have been cut off, and I am indebted to the Secretary of War and his able assistants for very much of the good results which mark the record of the year. ESTIMATES.

The estimates which I have submitted in the manner pointed out by law, through the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of the Treasury, are just and reasonable in every respect. I ask especially that no curtailment may be made of the amounts to be paid for the Special Examination Division, which must be from time to time enlarged to meet the emergencies of the service and the multiplication of

During the past year a large number of convictions, reimbursements, and repayments have been made, and a wholesome regard for the power of the Government instilled into the minds of the criminal classes. With high respect, I have the honor to be, very truly yours, John C. Black, Commissioner of Pensions.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 10, 1887.

GIFT-BOOK That should be



presented to every Post. Agents wanted Address,

National Tribune,

Above is a fac-simile of book presented to Post 15, Bos-

Do you have pains about the chest and sides, and sometimes in the back? Do you feel dull and sleepy? Does your mouth have a bad taste, especially in the morning? Is there a sort of sticky slime collects about the teeth? Is your appetite poor? Is there a feeling like a heavy load on the stomach, sometimes a faint, all-gone sensation at the pit of the stomach, which food does not satisfy?

Are your eyes sunken? Do your hands and feet become cold and feel clammy? Have you a dry cough? Do you expectorate greenish colored matter? Are you hawking and spitting all or part of the time? Do you feel tired all the while? Are you nervous, irritable and gloomy? Do you have evil forebodings? Is there a giddiness, a sort of whirling sensation in the head when rising up suddenly? Do your bowels become costive? Is your skin dry and hot at times? Is your blood thick and stagnant? Are the whites of your eyes tinged with yellow? Is your urine scanty and high colored? Does it deposit a sediment after standing? Do you frequently spit up your food, sometimes with a sour taste and sometimes with a sweet? Is this frequently attended with palpitation of the heart? Has your vision become impaired? Are there spots before the eyes? Is there a feeling of great prostration and weakness? If you suffer from any of these symptoms, send me your name and I will send you, by mail,

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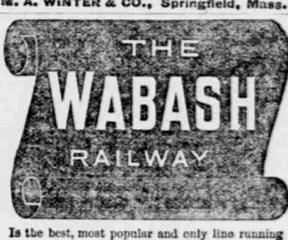
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